

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1–53 (cancelled)

Please add the following new claims:

54. (new) A medical device for use in a medical procedure comprising:
a manually graspable handle;
an elongated shaft projecting from the handle, the shaft being sized and shaped to be positioned through a small incision in the chest of a patient and defining a proximal section comprising a rigid, elongated metal tube and a distal section comprising metal and a rounded tip portion adapted to be slid relative to tissue, the shaft including a joint comprising a pin that moveably couples the distal section to the proximal section thereby allowing the distal section to pivot relative to the proximal section;
a non-conductive material surrounding at least a portion of the elongated shaft;
a remote actuator proximal the distal section for selectively controlling the actuation of the joint;
a power source comprising a battery; and
a light electrically coupled to the power source.
55. (new) The medical device of claim 54, further comprising a switch coupled to the power source, wherein the switch controls delivery of power from the power source.
56. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the distal section includes a passage.
57. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the distal section includes an opening.
58. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the distal section includes a hole.

59. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the distal section includes a slot.
60. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the actuator comprises a knob.
61. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the actuator comprises a button.
62. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the actuator comprises a lever.
63. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the actuator comprises a slide.
64. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein at least a portion of the distal section of the elongated shaft defines a uniform radius of curvature.
65. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the handle is rigidly coupled to the shaft such that the shaft is readily manipulated via movement of the handle.
66. (new) The medical device of claim 54, further comprising a sensor located at the distal section of the elongated shaft.
67. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the actuator is located at the handle.
68. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the proximal section includes an internal lumen.
69. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein at least a portion of the shaft is malleable.
70. (new) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the medical procedure is an ablation procedure.

71. (new) A medical device for use in a medical procedure comprising:

- a manually graspable, non-conductive handle;
- an elongated shaft projecting from the handle, the shaft being sized and shaped to be positioned through a small incision in the chest of a patient and defining a proximal section comprising a rigid, elongated metal tube and a distal section comprising metal and a rounded tip portion adapted to be slid relative to tissue, the shaft including a joint comprising a pin that moveably couples the distal section to the proximal section thereby allowing the distal section to pivot relative to the proximal section;
- a non-conductive material surrounding at least a portion of the elongated shaft;
- a remote actuator located at the handle for selectively controlling the actuation of the joint;
- a power source comprising a battery;
- a light electrically coupled to the power source; and
- an activator located at the handle for activating the delivery of power from the power source.